Janet & Joseph 的婚礼见证

编者按:唐弟兄和施姐妹的小儿子唐恕两年前和Janet Hrdina 结婚。两位年轻人在罗 切斯特大学的一个跨族群的校园团契里认识,一起服事、相爱、结婚。施姐妹征得他们同 意,请编辑组的同工将他们的婚礼见证翻译成中文,与大家分享。

我们的故事——唐恕版

看见珍尼特那一刻,我知道她就是我命中注定的那一位。讲完了,放音乐吧。

不是这样的!其实很搞笑,我第一次遇到珍尼特,对她的感觉有点复杂。那是一个 IV 组会。当时,我们准备在学校里正式成立社团,要决定谁做领导。我进来迟了(迟到是我很不好的习惯),珍尼特已经来了,就坐在那儿。我想,"哦,有个新人!太好了!"我们的团队很小,有新人来是重大信息。听她做自我介绍时,我脑子里冒出三个念头:1)嗯,同是光学系的研究生。2)哇,她本科就在 IV 做同工,比我厉害吗?3)等等,她是博一?嗯,我要做她的助教。改作业的时候,我绝不能对她偏心(我有一种奇怪的正义感)。会议结束的时候,我们决定每个人都做社团的领导(因为我们总共就四个人)。啊?等等,我突然有了第四个念头:她觉得她自己是谁呀,第一次参加会议就成了一位领导?这位,我得留心点,她有点那个狡猾……

我们就这么开始的。第一年,我们知道有对方这么个人。通过 IV 组会,我渐渐敬佩珍尼特的灵性。最终,我承认,上一届主席毕业后,珍尼特是下一任最合适的人选。同时,我也尽量在跟她交朋友和做一个公平的助教之间寻找平衡点。结果,我跟她保持着一臂之距。

第二年,我们开始更多地认识对方。到了暑假,我不再是珍尼特的助教,不再需要装作 "公正"。大概那个时候,我突然意识到,论到精神世界,在我认识的女生中,甚至在我认识的所有人中,我最了解的就是珍尼特。这,这是怎么发生的?!?但这是事实。因为这 个事实,我决定在小组里更好地观察她、了解她,走一步是一步。结果,天呐,我发现珍尼特太逗了,绝对癫狂。她风趣、机智、有时爱挖苦人,有种似曾相识的感觉?!?我刚刚仅仅想更多认识她,现在立马就想跟她约会。于是我鼓足勇气,想邀请珍尼特一起出去……然后却害怕退缩了。当然,故事不是这样。最后,我选择用 Email 邀请她。嘚,我已经听见叹气声。但至少 Email 不会出卖我紧张发抖的声音。好吧,我孬。总之,之后我当面邀请珍尼特,她就答应了。

很快总结一下我们的恋爱期。开始是甜蜜期,都觉得对方太棒了,太美妙了。过了六个月,我们开始大吵,感谢神的恩典和辅导的帮助,我们挺过来了。那一年,我们一起过了大多数节假日。我们的关系也进入一个新阶段,又觉得对方太棒了,一切太美好了,并且我们学会了解决冲突。很快,我们决定订婚。现在,我们的婚期很快逼近。我们忒期待。

这就是我对我们故事的总结。相信我,现实比我所讲述的故事更奇妙,不是任何语言能描述的。认识珍尼特并爱上她是一种无与伦比的奇妙经历。我说了一大通,也只能略略描述这种美妙。我特别蒙福,能称珍尼特赫第纳为我的未婚妻,更期待称她成为我妻子的那一天。

这就是我们的故事。完毕!来点音乐!

我们的故事——珍妮特版

我第一次见到唐恕,是在研究生院开学前的一次 IV(跨宗派的校园团契)会议上。正是在那次会议上,我俩成为 IV 研究生基督徒校园团契的同工。那年,我们的任务是让 IV 在校园里正式运作起来。我很高兴我的这位同工也在光学系读书。开学后的第一天,我得知他还是我的一门课的助理教官,就是助教。我不觉得他会对我有浪漫的感觉,所以我们相处时我不用故意掩饰自己,我也很珍惜唐恕和我们的友谊。我猜,你们都知道后来发生了什么。

大约十一个月后,经过一周内的几次"巧遇",唐恕终于鼓起勇气提出约会。我不能说之前没有一点征兆,(比如去伊利运河划船那次,我也就那么一说,他就不请自来的做我的同伴。他还邀我去坐摩天轮害得我不能备考我的博士资格初试。还有一次伪池派对,那次是我主动。另外一次是跟我的伙伴们一起活动。)但他的举动还是让我吃了一惊。

故事的中间部分是机密,只有顶级资格的才能看。但我敢说,我们领教了俩人可以吵得多凶,我们一起经历了许多,我们学习了(也仍在学习)如何从关爱彼此开始去爱护整个世界。当然,这个间隙中发生了某些"事件"——我们订婚了!

我非常期待嫁给我的校园团契同工,我们可以继续一起经历生活中的乐趣。更重要的是,我知道我能跟他一起成长,他也会带给我更多挑战。作为校园事工团契的一名基督徒,我们俩都强烈的感受到神对我们的呼召是为要彰显神的大爱、创造和荣耀,这都体现在我们日常生活中。唐恕的谦卑、坚定和韧性,以及乐于向别人学习,都让我看到了神的大爱创造和荣耀在我们身上的体现。求神祝福我们在婚姻里继续学习更好地生活,更加地相爱。

Our Cover Story: What we tell people happened as told by Joseph

The second I saw Janet, I knew she was the one. End of story. Cue the music. NOT. It's funny, the first time I met Janet, I already had mixed feelings about her. It was at an IV group meeting as we were deciding who the leaders would be as we were planning to become an official club on campus. I walked in late (an unfortunate character trait of mine), and there she was, just sitting there. "Oh, a new person! Awesome!" I thought. We were a small group, so new people = great news. As we introduced ourselves, I had three thoughts: 1) Hey, fellow optics grad student! Woohoo! 2) Whoa, she's done a lot of previous IV stuff from undergrad, is she better than me? 3) Wait a sec, a first year? Oh shoot, I have to TA her. I will NOT let this sway my grading of her homework, dang it (I have a weird sense of justice). By the end of the meeting, it was decided that everyone present would be part of the club leadership (I mean, there was only four

of us), and that is when I had my fourth thought about Janet: 4) Wait a second, now who the heck does she think she is, coming all up in here on her first meeting and becoming a leader? Got to keep an eye on this one, she's crafty....

That's how our relationship first started. The first year we knew each other, I grew to admire Janet's spiritual life as I learned about it through IV meetings, and I eventually had to admit that when it came to who would become the next IV leader after the previous one graduated, Janet was definitely the better choice. I also tried to balance being friends with her while still being an impartial TA, but that pretty much ended up with me holding her at arm's length relationally.

It wasn't until the second year of knowing each other that we started to get to know each other and eventually start dating. By summer break, I was not Janet's TA, so I no longer felt the need to be "impartial" anymore. Around that time, it suddenly came to my attention that of all the women I knew in my life, of all people Janet was the one whose spiritual life I knew the best. Like "what, how did that happen?!?" But because of this fact, I decided that I would try to get to know Janet a little better in a group setting first and see what came of it. And oh my goodness I discovered Janet is HILARIOUS! Just absolutely hysterical. She's funny, sarcastic, witty, like where was this before?!? I moved pretty quickly from "just trying to get to know Janet" to "I think I could date Janet." So I mustered up some courage to ask Janet out and... totally wimped out. Yeah, this is totally not that kind of story. I end up asking Janet out, of all things, by email. Ugh, I can hear the groans already. But hey, at least email doesn't have my nervous, shaky voice, okay, gosh. Anyways, pretty much right after that I asked Janet out in person, and she said yes.

A quick summary of our dating life, we started with a lot of highs where we thought the other person was awesome/fantastic, then after six months we started having big arguments, which we got through thanks to mentors and God's grace, and by the one year mark we made it through most of the holidays together and we settled into a great stage in our relationship where we start thinking the other person was awesome/fantastic again, but now tempered with conflict-resolution. Soon after that we decided to get engaged, and now we are heading quickly towards our wedding date. We can't wait!

So that is my summary of our story. Trust me, living the story is WAY more amazing that any words I could possibly use to describe our relationship.

These words are just a mere shadow of the awesome, fantastic, amazing experience it was getting to know and falling in love with Janet Hrdina, the wonderful woman I am incredibly blessed to call my fiancée and can't wait to one day call my wife. Just saying.

So that's it! End of story! Cue the music!

Between two agents: How our life is like a spy's life by Janet

When I first met Joseph, it was at an InterVarsity meeting the day before grad school started. That meeting was when we became fellow field operatives in IV Graduate Christian Fellowship. Our mission that year was to make IV's operations official on campus. I was glad I potentially had a fellow agent in the optics department. The first day of grad school, I learned he was also an assistant training officer for one of my courses. TA, in other words. I cherished Joseph and our relationship because I didn't have to worry about Joseph being romantically interested in me. I felt I could be myself around him. I guess we all know how that turned out.

About 11 months later, after a week of undercover operations at sundry locations such as a boat on the Erie Canal (which I totally just mentioned in passing and Joseph invited himself along as my plus one), a Ferris wheel (which Joseph invited me to instead of studying for my prelim exam), a pseudo-pool party (that one's on me), and an operation with the rest of my cohort, Joseph got up the nerve to ask me on a date. I can't say there weren't hints, but I was pretty surprised by that one.

The middle of this story is redacted because it is classified, for top-level clearance only. Suffice it to say, we learned how much people can argue, we had a lot of adventures, and we learned (are learning) how to care for the whole world from where we are. And then, after some "events" happened in that gap, we're engaged!

I am (so!) looking forward to marrying my fellow field operative so that we can continue having fun and more importantly because I know I will be able to grow with him and be challenged by him. As Christian field operatives, we are called to be in the workplace and demonstrate God's love, creativity, and glory – something that Joseph and I feel strongly about and have been learning what this looks like practically. Joseph has taught me so much about that through his humility and willingness to learn from anyone, his steadfastness, and his tenacity. I pray that in our marriage, we will continually learn how to live better and love better.